



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Toshitsugu Yamamoto

Group Art Unit: 5750

Application No.: 09/961,241

Examiner: JEROME GRANT II

Filing Date: September 25, 2001

Confirmation No.: 2626

Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD ALLOWING CONTROL OF EDGE  
ENHANCEMENT EFFECT

## AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.☐ Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the ☐ \$65.00 (2814) ☐ \$130.00 (1814) fee per  
Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.☒ Also enclosed is/are One (1) Annotated Marked-Up Sheet of Drawing

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☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the  
☐ \$395.00 (2801) ☐ \$790.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered.  
Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_,  
for which continued examination is requested.☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least \_\_\_\_\_,  
which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R.  
§ 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also  
enclosed.

- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims		MINUS =	0	x \$50.00 (1202) =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims		MINUS =	0	x \$200.00 (1201) =	\$ 0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$360.00 (1203)					
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$ 0.00</b>

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.
- ☐ Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

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By



James A. LaBarre  
Registration No. 28,632

Date: December 16, 2005



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Toshitsugu Yamamoto	)	Group Art Unit: 5750
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Filed: September 25, 2001	)	Confirmation No.: 2626
For: IMAGE PROCESSING	)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD	)	
ALLOWING CONTROL OF EDGE	)	
ENHANCEMENT EFFECT	)	

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 18, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and objection to the drawings.

The most recent Office Action repeats the rejection of claims 1-11 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112. The Examiner maintains that the specification does not describe a distributing unit that calculates a value as claimed in claims 1 and 9.

As pointed out in Applicant's previous response, claim 1 recites a distributing unit that calculates a value to be distributed on the basis of three factors, namely (a) an input signal, (b) an output signal of the thresholding unit, and (c) a specific value determined for each pixel. Applicant referred to Figure 1 as an example of such a distributing unit, pointing out that the output of the adding unit 207 comprises the claimed calculated value. In response, the most recent Office Action questions which elements in Figure 1 constitute the distributing unit.